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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/022,992 | 12/17/2001 | Yasushi Kurakake | 393032029200 | 4246 |

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EXAMINER

VU, THONG H

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2142

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,992

Applicant(s)

KURAKAKE ET AL.

Examiner

Thong H. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-9 and 11-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-9 and 11-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. Claims 1,5,7-9,11-14 and new claims 15-20 are pending. Claims 6,10 are cancelled.
2. This application claims priority of Dec 18 2000.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-10, filed 2/21/06, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-5,7-9,11-20 under Snyder-Youn have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Snyder-Youn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5,7-9,11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snyder [6,643,641 B1] in view of Youn [2001/0056418 A1].

4. As per claim 1, Snyder discloses A method of searching for contents information presented by a plurality of information sites over a network based on a query sent from a client terminal to a searching server through the network, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

prompting the client terminal to input a query [Snyder, col 16 lines 37-50;col 2
2lines 10-21;col 24 lines 21-35]

enabling the client terminal to transmit the query to the searching server through the network [Snyder, col 10 lines 39-59],

operating the searching server according to the query to search for one (or more) of the information sites having contents information matching the query [Snyder, col 3 lines 50-col 4 line 2], and to send back directory information indicative of locations of the searched information sites to the client terminal [Snyder, col 10 lines 39-59];

operating the client terminal according to the directory information for accessing the searched information sites [Snyder, col 25 line 58-col 26 line 10]; and

Snyder also taught the criteria performed by two agents and provide the result to the user. However Snyder does not detail

“the query containing an item keyword indicating an item as a target of searching and an action keyword indicating an action to be made on the item;” and

“registering directory information of a new information site in the searching server together with an item keyword and an action keyword matching the contents information presented by the new information site in response to a request for registration of the new information site form a client terminal.”

In the same endeavor, Youn discloses a method and apparatus for facilitating internet search by providing web document layout image including extracts web document information such as title (i.e.; item keyword) and linked URL (i.e.: action keyword) [Youn, 0030]

Therefore it would have been obvious to an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the technique of searching keywords such as noun

and verb as taught by Youn into the Snyder's apparatus in order to utilize the two agents searching. Doing so would improve the processing time for network searching and provide the efficient results to the user [Snyder col 4 lines 52-59].

5. As per claim 3, Snyder-Youn disclose the prompting section provides a list of various item keywords and action keywords with the client terminal such that the user can select a set of an item keyword and an action keyword from the list to formulate the query [Youn, extracts the information, 0030].

6. As per claim 4, Snyder-Youn disclose a database that stores the directory information of the information sites spread over the network together with the item keywords and the action keywords matching the contents information presented by the respective information sites [Youn, extracts the information, 0030].

7. As per claim 5, Snyder-Youn disclose the operating section can search for one (or more) information sites with reference to the database according to the query [Youn, extracts the information, 0030].

8. As per claim 7, Snyder-Youn disclose the registering section responds to the request for registration of the new information site from the client terminal, for providing a list of various item keywords and action keywords with the client terminal such that the user can select a set of an item keyword and an action keyword from the list in matching

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with the contents information presented by the new information site [Youn, extracts the information, 0030].

9. As per claim 16, Snyder-Youn disclose Snyder-Takahashi disclose the registering section registers information indicating another action corresponding to the action indicated by the registered action keyword or verb [Youn, 0030].

10. Claims 8,9,11-15,17-20 contain the similar limitations set forth in claims 1-5,7 and 16. Therefore claims 8,9,11-15,17-20 are rejected for the same rationale set forth in claims 1-5,7 and 16.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thong Vu*, whose telephone number is (571)-272-3904. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:00AM- 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Andrew Caldwell*, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval IPAIRI system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thong Vu
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2142

